## REMARKS

Claims 1-30 are pending. Claims 1-30 have been rejected. Claims 1, 11, and 21 have been amended. No new matter has been added.

Claims 11-30 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 101 as being directed to non-statutory subject matter. The independent claims 11 and 21 have been appropriately amended. Withdrawal of the rejection of claims 11-30 under 35 U.S.C. § 101 is respectfully requested.

Claims 1-8, 11-18, and 21-28 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by Peng, U.S. Patent No. 6,317,754. It is respectfully submitted that claims 1-8, 11-18, and 21-28 are allowable over the art of record for the reasons set forth below.

Claim 1 is directed to synchronizing instances for a data platform, and has been amended to more clearly include the feature of maintaining a separate vector for each instance. As claimed, each vector represents all changes that have been made to the vector's associated instance, by comprising a most recent change number for the associated instance, and a most recent known change number for each of the other instances that are known to the associated instance. The prior art fails to disclose or suggest such features.

The Office Action (pages 4-5) refers to the summarizing version vector of Peng as teaching the features of claim 1. It is respectfully submitted, however, that Peng does not teach a separate summarizing version vector for each instance. According to Peng, the summarizing version vector is a vector of update stamps, with each update stamp having a field for an object container's identifier and time stamp. The summarizing version vector contains the identifiers and the time stamps for all of the objects in all of the object containers in the system. Thus, the summarizing version vector is associated with many instances, and there is no disclosure or suggestion of a separate vector associated with each instance as claimed.

The Office Action (page 4) states that the Applicant's arguments "amount to a general allegation that the claims define a patentable invention without specifically pointing out how the language of the claims patentably distinguishes them from the references". It is respectfully submitted, that claim 1, as amended, includes the features of "maintaining a separate vector for each instance, each vector comprising a most recent change number for its

associated instance, and a most recent known change number for each other instances from among said plurality of instances that are known to said associated instance, each being a known instance, wherein said vector represents all changes that have been made to said associated instance." A separate vector for each instance, as well as the other associated features as claimed, are neither taught nor suggested by the prior art, taken alone or in combination.

Independent claims 11 and 21 recite similar features. Based on the foregoing, claims 1, 11, and 21 should not be rejected as being anticipated by Peng. Thus, claims 1, 11, and 21, along with their dependent claims, are patentable for the reasons set forth above. Withdrawal of the rejections of claims 1-8, 11-18, and 21-28 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b), is respectfully requested.

Claims 9, 10, 19, 20, 29, and 30 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Peng in view of Sasaki (U.S. Publication No. 2004/0267834). It is respectfully submitted that claims 9, 10, 19, 20, 29, and 30 are allowable over the art of record for the reasons set forth below.

Claims 9, 10, 19, 20, 29, and 30 are variously dependent from independent claims 1, 11, and 21, and are therefore patentable for the reasons set forth above with respect to these claims. Sasaki fails to cure the deficiencies of Peng. Sasaki describes data synchronization between a server and a mobile device using a recursive search to identify objects related to a particular object. However, Sasaki fails to teach or suggest "maintaining a separate vector for each instance, each vector comprising a most recent change number for its associated instance, and a most recent known change number for each other instances from among said plurality of instances that are known to said associated instance, each being a known instance, wherein said vector represents all changes that have been made to said associated instance", as claimed. Therefore, withdrawal of the rejections of claims 9, 10, 19, 20, 29, and 30 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) is respectfully requested.
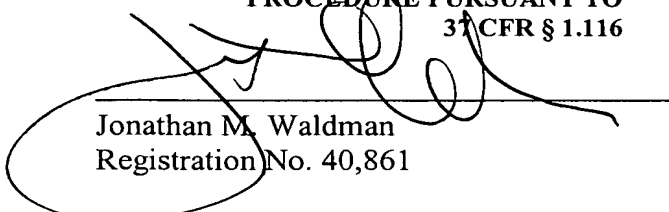
In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, Applicants submit that the above-identified application is in condition for allowance. Early notification to this effect is respectfully requested.

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Jonathan M. Waldman
Registration No. 40,861

Woodcock Washburn LLP
Cira Centre
2929 Arch Street, 12th Floor
Philadelphia, PA 19104-2891
Telephone: (215) 568-3100
Facsimile: (215) 568-3439